

Project Connect, the special interest program focused on junior officer mentorship, is receiving high praise from Lajes company grade officers. See page 2.

First Look

Children's Cantata

"Listen to the Voices," will be performed at a combined service at noon Sunday. There will be no traditional Protestant service at 9 a.m. that day. A parish Christmas fellowship dinner will follow.

Ride home

People who need a ride home can call the Lajes Against Drunk Driving van at 2-5233 on base or 295-57-5233 from off base.

Limited dining

Dinner service in the dining room at the Top of the Rock club will only be available Dec. 2, 14, 22 and 23 this month due to holiday functions.

Parcel pickup

The post office has extended parcel pickup window hours to 8 p.m. Mon.-Thurs. For more information, call 2-5128.

ID checks

As of Wednesday, the commissary and both base exchanges now conduct 100 percent identification checks at the door and registers. Also, customers are limited to one transaction at the register unless in military uniform.

Store closure

The commissary is closed Tuesday due to a Portuguese holiday.

Phone bill tip

People going on temporary duty or leave for up to four months can have their phone service put "on hold" for that time. Visit the Portuguese Telecom outlet in the Portuguese terminal for more information.

Preflight

■ Days since last DUI 40
 ■ DUIs since Jan. 1 3
 ■ Current AEF 1 & 2
 ■ Current FPCON Alpha
 ■ **Combat Nighthawk:** Capt. William Taylor, 65th Operations Support Squadron;
 Master Sgt. Kevin Hoeft, 65th Communications Squadron

Run around ...



Blues Traveler, the New England Patriots cheerleaders, the Band of the U.S. Air Force Reserve and the United States Air Forces in Europe Band perform at 1 p.m. in the Portuguese hangar Sunday. Video cameras are not permitted at the concert. To ease traffic in the area, shuttles will run from the commissary to the bus stop across from the chapel and then to the hangar starting at 11:30 a.m. and will run as long as needed. Performers will be available to sign autographs from 3-4:30 p.m. Saturday at the Chace Fitness Center. For more information, see page 5. (Courtesy photo)

CMSAF calls on Lajes

By Staff Sgt. Olenda Kleffner
 Crossroads editor

During a visit here Nov. 26, Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Gerald Murray received a mission brief, spoke at an enlisted call, presented an Airman's Medal, toured multiple base facilities and had dinner at the Beira Mar Hotel with unit first sergeants.

"What a great opportunity it's been to visit Lajes and to meet our great Airmen here that are performing a great mission that is so vital and important to our nation and to our military as a whole not just our Air Force," Chief Murray said. "This is a gateway from America to take and move soldiers, sailors, Airmen and Marines, and move the equipment they need to support the mission that is going on in Southwest Asia. It's great to see not only our Airmen but how we partner with the Portuguese in making that happen."

About 250 people attended the enlisted call at the base theater, which gave the Team Lajes enlisted corps an opportunity to talk about issues affecting the Air Force.

During his visit, the chief talked about the Wingman program and the high rate of suicides, new uniforms, physical fitness program and force shaping.

"We've had 57 suicides in the last fiscal year, almost double what we had the year before. The wingman approach is a way to set the example of

Airmen taking care of Airmen, and Airmen looking after Airmen," he said. "We're at war right now and unfortunately we've suffered combat casualties, but we've had far more casualties in our Air Force from Airmen taking their own lives and accidents than we've had in combat," the chief said.

He said when Airmen know someone else is looking out for their best interest whether it's a supervisor, subordinate, friend, commander or first sergeant; he believes it will make a difference in the accident/suicide rate.

The chief also talked about the new utility uniforms.

"After all the time we've spent doing a wear and fit test, a study on them and all the design work, when it comes time to make the change we're going to have a great uniform that our Airmen are going to be proud to wear," he said. "When we surveyed our Airmen, 91 percent of them believe we should have a distinctive uniform."

The chief said the uniforms are wash and wear, easier to maintain, won't cost as much to keep up and that after a few modifications, the uniform will be a more combat-ready uniform.

"We're the first service to have a separate uniform for males and females," he said. "I've worn

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Lajes mentees get connected

Crossroads Staff

Project Connect, the special interest program focused on junior officer mentorship, is receiving high praise from Lajes company grade officers.

"I've had a positive experience with Project Connect," said 1st Lt. Brian Matchik, 65th Services Squadron.

Lieutenant Matchik registered with two mentors and said they are both always willing to help and answer any questions.

"I've learned a great deal and received excellent career advice and guidance for my future," he said.

According to Lt. Col. Kristen Nelson, Lajes Project Connect manager, almost 70 percent of Lajes company grade officers have signed up to participate in the United States Air Forces in Europe mentoring program.

"The main goal of Project Connect is to help junior officers find the right mentor," Colonel

Nelson said.

However, the colonel said Project Connect does not replace each squadron commander and flight commander's responsibility to mentor their junior officers about leadership, officership and job proficiency.

Capt. Samantha Elmore, 65th Medical Operations Squadron, said she already had a mentor and was concerned she would have to "officially" pick a new one.

"When I went into the system, though, it allowed me to pick anyone I wanted," she said. "So, I picked my previous squadron commander who is at Lackland, Air Force Base, Texas. He went into the system and accepted. Now I have a mentor that actually knows what I do in my

job and that understands my background. He also knows me as a person – not just a name – so I think that makes him a more effective mentor."

But Colonel Nelson said senior officers from another career field may be just as suited to give advice about career desires, balancing family and work time, overcoming obstacles or managing a unique situation.

"Project Connect provides the extensive database needed to find that perfect connection," she said. "Senior and field grade officer mentors throughout USAFE have volunteered to add their information to this database."

The junior officer, the mentee, fills out a questionnaire and the database provides a list of offic-

ers that meet his or her individual needs. The mentee then selects the best match from the list. Alternatively, he or she can register to be connected with a current mentor as Captain Elmore did. The database then helps the mentee and mentor keep track of mentoring sessions. The junior officer can also pick more than one mentor.

Colonel Nelson was selected as a mentor by a second lieutenant at RAF Lakenheath, United Kingdom, and said the mentor process is easy too.

"My mentee prefers to use e-mail rather than the phone," Colonel Nelson said. "I prefer it too, because my answers can be more thought out than if we were speaking. Also, she can save my responses and not have to remember or take notes when we talk."

To sign up or for more information about all the Combat and Special Interest Programs, click on the "COMBAT LAJES" button on the Lajes intranet site.



Stamping

Katharine and Elsa Summers, 65th Mission Support Squadron family support consultant, make greeting cards for deployed troops. "Stamp a Stack for Iraq" was the theme of the Nov. 10 Terceira Island Circle. The group next meets Dec. 9 and will make a holiday sparkle cross stitch ornament. For more information or to make reservations, call 2-4138. (Photo by James O'Rear)

New Air Force spouses



Col. Danny Leonard, 65th Air Base Wing vice commander, briefs spouses on the Air Force mission during the Nov. 23 Heartlink class at the family support center. The class is for spouses who have recently married Air Force members and helps them meet new people and learn about the military way of life. The next class is Jan. 27 at the family support center. Child care passes are available. For more information, call 2-4138. (Photo by Airman 1st Class Josie Kemp)

Focus notes

December Project CHEER

All events take place at the Sun & Sand Hut in the community activities center. For more information, call Sheryl Bush at 2-4135.

USAFE Xbox tournament, "Halo 2," 4 p.m. Saturday.

PlayStation Challenge 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, Dec. 18.

Movie marathon 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, Dec. 26; 7 p.m. Dec. 19.

Dominoes 6 p.m. Monday.

Air hockey tournament 7 p.m. Dec. 10.

Checkers 6 p.m. Dec. 13.

Arcade games tournament 7 p.m. Dec. 17

Chess 6 p.m. Dec. 20

Single elimination tournament of champions 7 p.m. Dec. 24

Monopoly 6 p.m. Dec. 27.

New Year's Eve potluck party 7 p.m. Dec. 31.

Customer College grads

Listed below are the graduates from the Nov. 19 Customer College class.

Distinguished graduate: **Master Sgt. Roger D. Alves**, 65th Air Base Wing;

Other graduates: **Emilia Meneses Barcelos**, 65th Services Squadron; **Barbara Biljan**, 65th SVS; **Rui Borges**, 65th SVS; **Staff Sgt. Trevon J. Brown**, 65th Comptroller Squadron; **Dean Fazzio**, 65th Medical Group; **Senior Airman Audrye Gainey**, 65th Logistics Readiness Squadron; **Emanuel Lopes**, Army and Air Force Exchange Service; **Elisabete Leal Machado**, 65th Civil Engineer Squadron; **Luisa Maria Mendes**, 65th Communications Squadron; **Airman 1st Class Aristotle Munoz**, 65th LRS; **Jose Helio Vieira Rocha**, 65th CES; **Airman 1st Class Jonathan Rush**, 729th Air Mobility Squadron

'E-exams' provide instant results

by Carl Bergquist
Air University Public Affairs

MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, Ala. (AFP) — Whether at home or in the field, the answer will come sooner when it comes to taking an Air Force examination.

By January, Air Force Institute for Advanced Distributed Learning officials at nearby Gunter Annex will have fully implemented the e-exam computer-based testing program which will provide a variety of military tests via computers.

"The Air Force developed e-exam for either stand-alone or networked computers," said Steve McCarver, program manager at the institute. "While any type of test can be administered through the program, career development courses and professional military education will probably benefit the most from it."

The system will ultimately eliminate the time-consuming process of mailing testing material and results between students and test facilities, Mr. McCarver said.

Currently, getting a test to a student can take as long as two weeks, depending upon the student's location. Once completed, tests

have to be mailed back to test facilities to be scored. The student must then wait weeks for results to be received in the mail.

With e-exam, students receive results of examinations immediately after completing the tests.

There are 767 test control facilities worldwide, and each facility will benefit from the new testing program, said Roy Kinney, the chief of the institute's course development branch.

"E-exam mirrors the paper-based testing system presently in use," he said. "Right now, we are administering more than 18,000 tests each month. Through e-exam, we will be able to give the tests on computers, which is important to military members who are trying to move on with their education but are being held up until they receive test results."

The program also benefits Airmen who may have ordered testing material shortly before a deployment. The material might not reach them in time and may be slow in catching up to them through the mail.

The program was beta-tested this year at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., at Keesler Air Force Base, Miss. and at Robins AFB, Ga., said Robert Carrigan, vice program manager.

"The test control facilities (staffs) loved the program and couldn't wait to get the system in full swing," he said. "The (program) areas touch both officer and enlisted members."

The push towards e-exam shifted into high gear in 2003 after Gen. Richard Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, acted on feedback from deployed Airmen who asked if there was an easier way to continue or complete their education while deployed.

"Our response to the general was that there was an easier and better way to do this, and that's when the program took a new direction to encompass all Air Force testing," Mr. McCarver said.

Mr. Kinney said while the e-exam is unique to the Air Force, the other services are starting to take notice. He predicts it will be a hit with all servicemembers.

"You've never seen such big smiles on the faces of students who have received their test results instantly," Mr. Carrigan said. "Many times, students can't move forward with their studies until they get their test scores, and being able to see those results so quickly really helps them out." (Courtesy of Air Education and Training Command News Service)



Battling fire with courage

By Tech. Sgt. Renee Kirkland
NCOIC, public affairs

Acts of heroism are not planned, they just happen. Depending on a person's point of view, last year on Christmas Eve Senior Airman Rudy King was either in the right place at the right time or the wrong place at the wrong time.

For his actions on Dec. 24, Airman King was awarded the Airman's Medal by Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Gerald Murray in a ceremony here Nov. 26.

Airman King, now a member of the 65th Logistics Readiness Squadron, was deployed to Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar from October 2003 to March 2004 from Aviano Air Base, Italy. During his rotation there he served as a bulk storage operator. On Dec. 24, 2003 a fire broke out at the jet transfer pump on Al Udeid.

"We were finishing up our end of shift briefing and walked out of the office to see flames across the yard," Airman King recalls.

The 180-pound Airman grabbed a 150-pound fire extinguisher and dragged it across the fuels yard as he helped his super-

visor and others battle the flames.

"I knew I needed to get this extinguisher over there and start spraying before the fire spread any further," he said.

Everyone played a part. His supervisor, Tech. Sgt. Phillip Watz, was right beside his men closing valves and spraying down equipment. Sergeant Watz closed critical fuel valves close to the fire but was unable to turn off all of the valves. He was driven out of the fire by the intensity of the flames and suffered second degree burns.

According to his citation, Airman King disregarded his own personal safety and came dangerously close to the 10-foot wall of flames to finish closing the receipt and transfer valves, stopping fuel from reaching the burning pump.

"I saw a valve that needed to be closed, and decided that it was worth the risk," Airman King said.

Airman King's actions prevented the fire from spreading to a transfer hose that would have ignited 1.1 million gallons of jet fuel and 115,000 gallons of diesel fuel stored only 75 feet away.

Airman King shrugs off the injuries he

suffered as a result of his actions.

"We were all a little cooked, but mostly we just suffered from smoke inhalation," he said.

Airman King's actions were not unbelievable to his current commander.

"It really came as no surprise that Rudy would do something like this," Lt. Col. Joe Martin, 65th LRS commander said. "From his first day at Lajes you could see in his eyes that if there was ever a crisis, he would run to solve it, not run away from it. It was just my pleasure to be able to get this medal pinned on him during such a meaningful ceremony."

"I am honored to have received such a medal," Airman King said. "On the evening of the fire, none of us set out to do anything heroic. All we wanted to accomplish was saving a fuel system that we all worked so hard in maintaining."

Receiving the medal during a visit from the chief master sergeant of the Air Force is something Airman King won't soon forget.

"It was a very special moment in my Air Force career, and I appreciate everyone's support and efforts for making all of this happen," Airman King said.

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the new pattern, and it's the most comfortable uniform I've worn since the permanent press fatigues many years ago."

The chief also mentioned the new physical fitness program is helping the Air Force become a fitter force.

"Our fitness centers have seen a 30-40 percent increase in the usage of the facilities. Our commanders across the Air Force are investing in fitness centers, equipment and tracks in ways to help us enhance our fitness," he said. "Our readiness depends on the new fitness program. The benefits are so great from our readiness capabilities to our individual health and well being, we're going to be a fitter force."

He also spoke about force shaping.

"We are in no way cutting our Air Force. Our authorized funding, which is set through the Department of Defense and Congress, is 359,600 Airmen in the active duty Air Force," he said. "Our problem is that we had grown to over 23,000 Airmen over our authorized amount."

He said that equates to about 1.5 billion dollars per 10,000 Airmen making the manpower bill well over \$3 billion.

"The majority of the force shaping cuts come out of recruiting, not from cutting Airmen out of our service," he said.

The chief said with force shaping, some Airmen are offered the opportunity to leave the Air Force voluntarily.

"Some have gone into the Guard and Air Force Reserve, some have gone blue to green and some are just voluntarily getting out of



Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Gerald Murray was greeted by members of the 65th Security Forces Squadron and their Portuguese Air Force counterparts during a visit to Lajes on Nov. 26. (Photo by A1C Josie Kemp)

the service all together," according to the chief.

Chief Murray represents the highest enlisted level of leadership and provides direction for the enlisted corps while representing their interests to the American public and the government.

The chief serves as the personal adviser to the Chief of Staff and the Secretary of the Air Force on all issues regarding the welfare, readiness, morale and proper utilization and progress of the enlisted force.

Chief Murray is from Boiling Springs, N.C.

and joined the Air Force in October, 1977.

During his nearly 30 years of service he has been in aircraft maintenance and served as a command chief master sergeant at wing, numbered Air Force and major command levels, and has been stationed in Florida, South Carolina, Washington, Georgia, Turkey, Japan, Hawaii.

He has deployed in support of operations Desert Storm and Southern Watch. He became the 14th Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force July 1, 2002.

Blues Traveler greets Lajes

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. – Blues Traveler and the New England Patriots Cheerleaders will combine with the Band of the U.S. Air Force Reserve and the U.S. Air Forces in Europe Band to provide holiday cheer to American troops and their families Sunday - Dec. 16.

They kick off the tour at Lajes, arriving tomorrow and playing a matinee show at 1 p.m. Sunday, at the Portuguese hangar.

Called "Operation Season's Greetings," the tour performs here and at Incirlik Air Base, Turkey; Ramstein AB and Spangdahlem AB, Germany; Royal Air Force Menwith Hill and RAF Mildenhall, England; and Keflavik, Iceland.

"This is going to be a great show for our Airmen and their families," said Gen. Robert H. "Doc" Foglesong, commander of U.S. Air Forces in Europe at Ramstein AB. "These band tours are a great morale booster for our people. It's great to be able to give them a taste of home, especially at this time of year."

Blues Traveler broke into the international

spotlight with its Grammy-winning single "Run Around."

According to their web site, this blues band still holds the record for the longest time on the Billboard Music chart.

The band has a huge fan base that has made it one the most consistently successful bands of the past 15 years with six gold or platinum releases and sales of more than 10 million albums.

The band members are John Popper, vocals and harmonica; Chan Kinchla, guitar; Brendan Hill, drums; Tad Kinchla, bass; and Ben Wilson, keyboards.

"Operation Season's Greetings will put on a show that is on par with any high-dollar concert back home," said Dave Ballengee, deputy director of the Band of the U.S. Air Force Reserve. "This Air Force tour group is bringing a cargo plane full of state-of-the-art sound, stage and lighting equipment. The group will put on a show that our troops will never forget."

Performing as the opening act for Blues

Traveler, the Band of the U.S. Air Force Reserve and the U.S. Air Forces in Europe Band will play well-known rock-and-roll, rap and contemporary favorites. To help warm up the crowd, the 2003 world champion New England Patriots are sending four members of their cheerleading squad to accompany the tour.

"The combined band serves as a good reminder of how Air Force reservists partner with the active-duty Air Force and the Air National Guard to create the Total Force," said Lt. Gen. John A. Bradley, chief of the Air Force Reserve, Pentagon. "We're working together on this tour to boost troop morale and let our people overseas know their Air Force family cares about them."

Known as "Citizen Airmen," Air Force reservists are frontline troops actively engaged in worldwide missions.

Air Force Reserve Command has about 76,100 reservists on full and part-time duty in every job specialty, contributing to virtually every Air Force mission.



In the Air Force ...

(Left) Senior Airman Ian Gray, 65th Security Forces Squadron, helps first grader Hayleigh Russo into a bulletproof vest during Military Munchkin Day Nov. 23 at the Lajes Elementary School. Children learned about various Air Force occupations and got to inspect and even wear some of the equipment. (Above) Staff Sgt. Eric Figueroa, 729th Air Mobility Squadron jet engine journeyman, showed the first grade class some of the tools the squadron uses on the flightline. (Photos by Guido Melo)

At Their Best

Congratulations to the 65th Contracting Squadron for winning the following awards in the 2004 USAFE Contracting awards:

A special recognition award went to **Master Sgt. Patrick McGowan** for a humanitarian assistance temporary duty and a special recognition team award went to **Phyllis Meneses, Lucia Rodrigues, Elma Mendonca and Tracy Assis** of the 65th CONS Plans and Programs Flight.

Team Lajes promotees for the month of December are:

Maj. Craig Green, 65th Mission Support Squadron; **Master Sgt. Alex Anderson**, 729th Air Mobility Squadron; **Master Sgt. Burk Davies**, 729th AMS; **Tech. Sgt. Mark Campbell**, 65th Civil Engineer Squadron; **Tech. Sgt. Robert Dean**, 65th Operations Support Squadron; **Tech. Sgt. Rafael Pena-Perez**, 729th AMS; **Tech. Sgt. Darrin Warfield**, 65th Logistics Readiness Squadron; **Staff Sgt. Ryan Bottorf**, 65th CES; **Staff Sgt. Trent Farmer**, 729th AMS; **Staff Sgt. Lafe Hernandez**, 65th Communications Squadron; **Staff Sgt. Kenzie Johnson**, 65th LRS; **Staff Sgt. Jason West**, 729th AMS; **Senior Airman Jason Fenstermacher**, 65th CES; **Senior Airman Aristotle Munoz**, 65th LRS; **Senior Airman Timothy Shackelford**, 729th AMS; **Airman 1st Class Justin Solis**, 65th CS; **Airman Rebekah Hayes**, 729th AMS



Code talker relates war experience

by Keith Pannell
27th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

CANNON AIR FORCE BASE, N.M. — The pride in Teddy Draper's voice is evident as he talks about events that helped America win the war in the Pacific 62 years ago.

Mr. Draper, who was born on a Navajo Indian reservation in Canyon Del Muerto, Ariz., was one of the Marine Corps Code Talkers who mystified the Japanese forces as the Americans battled their way toward the Japanese mainland.

"When we were at the induction station in 1943 taking the entrance tests, I told them I wanted to join the Air Force," Mr. Draper said. "They said ... I was going into the Marines."

Mr. Draper said he had been happy on the reservation, learning the ways of his ancestors when he and many of his fellow Navajo decided to fight for their country.

"We did eight weeks of basic training, then they sent us to Camp Pendleton for eight weeks of communications training," he said. "We had to learn to be radio operators

(and) switchboard operators who sit in the command posts, and even how to run cable.

"We had a lot to learn in a short time. We developed a code based on our language. It wasn't just us talking in Navajo. We had to develop code words to make it even more difficult to break," Mr. Draper said.

After training in Hawaii to learn how to disembark a troop ship and storm a beach, Mr. Draper and the rest of the 5th Marine Division headed west to take on the Japanese.

Then-Private Draper and his fellow Marines hit the beaches of Iwo Jima on Feb. 19, 1945, walking into a wall of Japanese gunfire that raked the sand from one end of the beach to another.

"We had nothing to hide behind," Mr. Draper said. "They hit us with everything they had — rifle fire, machine gun fire and artillery. It was like hail hitting the sand."

The Code Talker vividly recalls those first hours on the beach at the foot of Mount Suribachi. He also recalls the first time he escaped death.

"I was running from crater to crater with four other Navajo, and I felt something smack

my pants," Mr. Draper said. "I looked down and saw a bullet hole in my pants near my shin. I yelled back at the Japanese that they had missed their only chance to kill this Navajo."

Mr. Draper jumped into a large bomb crater and began setting up his equipment when he discovered a missing cable which was needed to connect the radios. The radios were connected to Mr. Draper's switchboard by those cables so that commanders could issue orders to individual outposts and the outposts could report what they were seeing in the battle.

His sergeant ordered him to go back to the landing craft and get it. So, Mr. Draper had to make a mad dash 150 yards back to the water and then run back to the temporary command post.

"My sergeant told me I had earned a medal for that. I told him I wasn't interested in a medal; I wanted to be promoted. A couple of days later, I was a corporal," he said.

Today, Mr. Draper and the rest of the remaining Code Talkers speak to the public, educating Americans about the American Indian contribution to the war.

Dec. 7 a day to reflect and remember

Crossroads staff

On Dec. 7, 1941 the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor making this date one of the great defining moments in history.

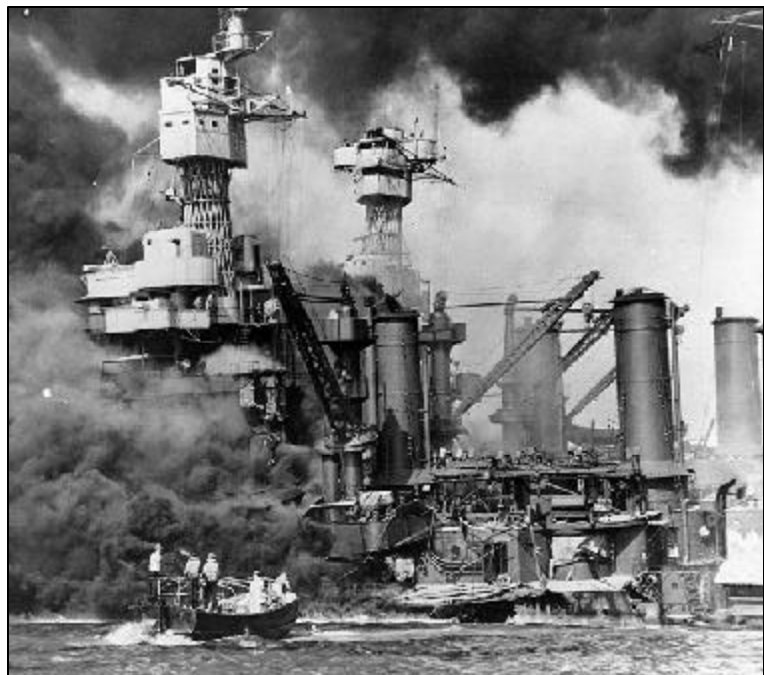
A single carefully-planned and well-executed stroke removed the United States Navy's battleship force as a possible threat to the Japanese Empire's southward expansion. America, unprepared and now considerably weakened, was abruptly brought into World War II.

Eighteen months earlier, President Franklin D. Roosevelt had transferred the United States Fleet to Pearl Harbor as a presumed deterrent to Japanese aggression.

The Japanese military badly needed oil and other raw materials. Commercial access to these was gradually curtailed as the conquests continued. Six months before the attack in July, 1941 the Western powers effectively halted trade with Japan.

By late November, 1941 U.S. officials fully expected a Japanese attack into the Indies, Malaya and probably the Philippines. Completely unanticipated was the prospect that Japan would attack east, because the U.S. Fleet's Pearl Harbor base was only reachable by an aircraft carrier force. But, the Japanese Navy secretly sent one across the Pacific with greater aerial striking power than had ever been seen on the world's oceans.

The Japanese planes hit just before 8 a.m. on Dec. 7. Within a short time five of eight battleships at Pearl Harbor were sunk or sinking, with the rest damaged and over 2,400 Americans were dead. The memory of the attack on Pearl Harbor fueled a determination to continue to fight on. Now on Dec. 7 America takes time to reflect and honor the lives lost in Pearl Harbor.



Sailors in a motor launch rescue a survivor from the water alongside the sunken USS West Virginia (BB-48) during or shortly after the Dec. 7 Japanese air raid on Pearl Harbor. USS Tennessee (BB-43) is inboard of the sunken battleship. (Official U.S. Navy Photograph, now in the collections of the National Archives).

Jan. raise targets housing costs

by **Gerry J. Gilmore**
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Money contained within the 2005 National Defense Authorization Act will fund a 3.5 percent troop pay raise and eliminate servicemembers' out-of-pocket costs for family housing, the Department of Defense's top military personnel official said.

The January troop pay raise will be applied across the board to all servicemembers and will not feature pay hikes targeted to specific ranks as in past years, said David S. C. Chu, the undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness.

The targeted raises issued to mid-level officers and noncommissioned officers over the past two years, Mr. Chu said, "have fixed," for now, most pay-disparity issues involving those ranks.

And, he said, money is contained in the act to boost allowances that eliminate servicemembers' out-of-pocket expenses for on- or off-base family housing.

Stateside and overseas family-housing allowances are calculated according to regional markets.

Another provision in the act removes a previously established ceiling limiting how much military family-housing inventory could be privatized, Mr. Chu said.

Privatization enables DOD officials to modernize military family housing more quickly and efficiently, Mr. Chu said. About one-third of military families live in on-base housing.

If DOD funded all of its existing family-housing needs by itself, it would take "forever" to make needed repairs or to re-

place aging housing units largely built in the 1950s, he said.

Mr. Chu named privatization success stories, such as contractor-provided housing for Soldiers and their families at Fort Carson, Colo.

Such private sector-provided housing offers contemporary quality and "design flair" for servicemembers while providing more bang for the buck for taxpayers.

The act also contains three special pay and bonus authorizations, Mr. Chu said. For example, the bill makes permanent the increase of military family separation pay to \$250 a month and hostile fire/imminent danger pay to \$225 a month.

The bill also provides "a much stronger set" of re-enlistment bonuses for Guard and Reserve servicemembers.

Mr. Chu said the act ensures

that troops in the field receive the equipment and other material they require to successfully prosecute the war on terrorism.

It also provides extended health coverage for some reservists, Chu said, as well as better Montgomery G.I. Bill benefits.

Another change contained in the act enables reservists to be called up for training before possible overseas deployment. This, Mr. Chu said, is a more efficient means of force management.

A major highlight of military personnel management during his tenure, Mr. Chu said involves successive increases in troop compensation.

"The president has been willing to carry the torch for us to argue for significant pay increases," he said, as well as to reduce and eventually eliminate servicemembers' out-of-pocket costs for housing.

DOD homeland plan aims forward

New defense shapes battle space "far from United States"

by **Army Sgt. 1st Class Doug Sample**
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFP) — The Department of Defense's new strategy for helping protect the nation is to have a "forward-deployed active-layered defense," said the man who helped craft the plan.

Paul McHale, assistant secretary of defense for homeland defense, said his agency "firmly believes" the nation's defense begins overseas. And DOD's homeland-defense strategy aims to "shape the battle space far forward from the United States' homeland."

Mr. McHale spoke at a two-day conference that focused on ways to better protect the nation's infrastructure, such as bridges and power plants.

"We must detect the enemy threat long before it approaches the United States. We must track that threat as it approaches the United States," he said. "If we identify an enemy threat only after it has come ashore, only after it has penetrated our defenses, only after that weapon of mass destruction is located within the United States port or facility, it's too late."

To prevent that from happening, he said department officials now have forward-deployed mission capabilities that did not exist three years ago. Those capabilities include

the ability to intercept a commercial aircraft that may be converted to a weapon.

"We train for that mission every day," Mr. McHale said. "We have F-15 [Eagles] and F-16 [Fighting Falcons] in the air conducting combat-air patrols, prepared to intercept any threat in the air domain."

Combat-air patrols are also being flown on a random basis over major metropolitan cities and key facilities and power plants, he said.

"We were not conducting those missions on Sept. 11; we are effectively conducting them today," he said.

Mr. McHale also said changes in maritime security will focus on being able to "identify, intercept and defeat weapons of mass destruction on the high seas." The most "probable course of action" for terrorists to bring the weapons into the United States from overseas would be through the ports system, he said.

"We have to forward deploy our maritime defenses, our surveillance capabilities, our surface combatants with the right kinds of operational capabilities to detect and defeat (the enemy) on the high seas, ideally hundreds of nautical miles from our coasts."

He said the proliferation security initiative gives U.S. Northern Command officials, who are defending the homeland, an important interdiction requirement that will include

the area up to 500 nautical miles from the Pacific coast and 1,700 nautical miles off the Atlantic coast.

Mr. McHale said the Navy and Coast Guard signed an agreement to ensure the "complete integration" of maritime forces. "We are in this fight together," he said.

Meanwhile, he said he is surprised the country has not faced a follow-on attack from al-Qaida since Sept. 11, 2001. But, he said, "it is not because the United States has been lucky."

"Luck had nothing to do with it," he said. "If we rely on luck, we (will) be defeated."

Instead, he said, the United States has been proactive in going after the enemy.

"By developing a strategy of forward-deployed and active-layered defense supported by the very best technology that we can commit to that mission, we can be very proactive identifying the enemy threat, whether that threat exists in Afghanistan or off the coast of the United States or within our own cities," he said.

Mr. McHale said sending troops into places like Afghanistan and Iraq has disrupted al-Qaida's ability to plan and deliver follow-on attacks. By removing the Taliban from power and driving them up into the mountains, "we put them in a very difficult position to plan follow-on attacks," he said.

Local lights a recent tradition

This week instead of answering a question I would like to elaborate on a Christmas tradition that was recently adopted by the cities of Praia da Vitória and Angra do Heroísmo.

I'm talking about the decorating of some streets with lights and other adornments during the holiday season.

This tradition started about a decade ago with both cities decorating their main streets with the purpose of enhancing the Christmas spirit and attracting more shoppers to the streets to help the local businesses with their Christmas sales.

This year, both cities coordinated their efforts and the Christmas lights were illuminated simultaneously on Nov. 19.

The light adornments feature a multitude of colors and portray several Christmas themes such as reindeer, Santa Claus, Christmas trees, angels, candles, etc.

During the holidays most of the shops in Praia

and Angra will be open until 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 2-7 p.m. on Sundays, until Christmas Day.

These special hours of operation are intended to allow the customers extra hours of shopping.

In addition to the Christmas lighting, Terceira Island's Chamber of Commerce will sponsor several cultural events in the main streets or squares of Angra and Praia throughout the season with the intent of promoting the businesses' sales.

These events will include performances by local bands and clowns, which will take place mainly during December's Saturday and Sunday afternoons.

The Christmas lights will remain in place until about Jan. 6, which is the day the Portuguese commemorate the Epiphany or Three Kings' Day, marking the end of the holiday season.



Man on the street

What improvements do you think should be made at Lajes Field?



1st Lt. Scott Denny, 65th Operations Support Squadron, "A more accessible way to travel off-island other than space-A. Because it's a remote location there should be a more reliable way to save seats."



Liz Brazeau, "I'd like to see a healthier school lunch menu and healthier food options on base."



Tech. Sgt. Tony Russo, 65th Operations Support Squadron, "More Master's degree opportunities or more on-site graduate degree programs."



Susan Gontarek, "More fun activities available for young kids at the youth center or on base."

Shop smart online

by **Capt. Yvonne Levardi**
Chief, public affairs

Seasoned island shoppers know some of their Christmas shopping will have to be done online to get all the items on loved ones' wish lists.

What they may not know is being a smart shopper includes being savvy about safe Internet shopping.

"One of the risks associated with Internet shopping is site security," said Maj. John Roden, 65th Air Base Wing Chief of Safety. "If you don't know the company you're purchasing from or aren't certain you're on a secure server, you can't be certain your personal information will be safe."

A locked padlock icon on the bottom of the Internet browser or a Web address that begins with "https" indicates that page is secure, meaning credit card information can be transmitted safely – but that's only part of safe shopping.

"Your best bet for reliability is to stick with well-known companies or sites with big-name stores backing them up," Major Roden said.

Some tips for ensuring your online shopping experience is a success are:

- Print a copy of order

information to have proof of purchase, and a reminder of when the item was bought.

- Check out a company's return and warranty policy before purchasing.

- Never send personal or credit card information through e-mail.

- Don't give out unnecessary information such as social security or driver's license numbers.

- At an auction, get the seller's personal contact information and check out their sale history from other buyers.

- Never pay for an online purchase by Western Union – only use credit cards. That way, transactions are protected by the Fair Credit Billing Act and consumers can dispute unauthorized charges or unfilled orders.

- Just because a site looks good doesn't mean it's a good company. When in doubt, try calling the site on the phone for verification and to check out their customer service.

"Also, the Federal Mail/Telephone Order Merchandise Rule covers online orders," Major Roden said. "This means that unless it states otherwise, merchandise must be delivered within 30 days and if there are delays, the company must notify you."



COMMENTARY

Thanks to the original wingmen

by **Col. Barbara Jacobi**
65th Air Base Wing commander

I want to commend everyone for a great start to the holiday season.

Thanksgiving is always special and I particularly have a lot to be thankful for and I know you do too.

When you have your health, belong to this great Air Force of ours, and are able to enjoy this beautiful island and the people you truly have a lot to be thankful for.

But there are other reasons to be thankful. So, I'd just like to take the time to thank the original wingmen—our first sergeants.

First sergeants are always out there, 24/7, taking care of people—you and me. And with the holiday season upon us, they'll be even busier making sure we have a safe and happy holiday season.

They do it because they care. Most of the time they do it without us even knowing, so it's hard to always thank them. But we should.

Since the beginning of American military history, first sergeants have been taking care of troops. What could be more important than that?

Thank you first sergeants
for taking such good care
of all of us.

The first sergeant's creed says: "I'm a first sergeant—my job is people—everyone is my business. I dedicate my time and energy to their needs; their health, morale, discipline and welfare. I

grow in strength by strengthening my people. My job is done in faith; my people build faith. My job is people—everyone is my business" and we all know that people are the Air Force's most important asset.

First sergeants have taken on this responsibility because they want to—it's purely a voluntary position. They do it because they care about you and me.

They take pride in their Air Force, they take pride in their duty and most of all they take pride in you.

We are fortunate to have six outstanding first sergeants—our original wingmen.

If you haven't thanked them in a while, now would be a good time because I know they are going to be working hard behind the scenes to ensure we have a safe and happy holiday season.

Thank you first sergeants for taking such good care of all of us.

LADD van availability

Q: I'd like to know why we can't have the Lajes Against Drunk Driving van available the night before a goal day, especially for those of us who go out to the local clubs.

A: We have actually extended our normal services in the past to accommodate Praia and Angra Festivals, so I certainly support the idea of using the van and providing anti-driving under the influence services when there is a legitimate need.

There is no problem running the van on the nights in question, however, the volunteer hours are very rough hours ... midnight to 5 a.m. LADD would need to hold a meeting to get consensus from all LADD squadron points of contact.

Please remember that LADD is a free ride home, but the LADD van operates on donations of time and money from base people. One way you can help is to donate to keep the LADD van full of gas


ACTION LINE

The Action Line is your means of addressing a problem, concern or challenge to me about something in the 65th Air Base (Wing or U.S. Forces Azores). However, your chain of command should always be your first option. When that's not the answer, then call the Action Line at 2-4240 and I'll address it quickly and with care. Thank you!

Col. Barbara Jacobi
65th Air Base Wing Commander

E-MAIL: ACTIONLINE@LAJES.AF.MIL

CALL 2-4240



and operational.

Mail's up

Q: Years ago we used to have a yellow flag with a happy face on it to signify when the mail was posted. It was more visible than the current neon sign; to see that, we have to drive to the post office. Can we get that happy face flag back?

A: We switched to the neon sign because it presents a more professional image than the flag. Most of the mail is posted by 3 p.m. on most days. Also, our post office is small compared to the volume of mail we receive so we'd like people to come more often to pick up mail - especially now, during the holiday season - so we can clear space for the next day's postal deliveries.



This funded Air Force newspaper is an authorized weekly publication for members of the U.S. military services overseas.

Contents of the Crossroads are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

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The Crossroads staff encourages its readers to call or e-mail with ideas or corrections. Call 2-3347 to speak to a Crossroads staff member or e-mail us at news@lajes.af.mil.

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Oh crud!

(Above) Andrew Hoisington, 65th Civil Engineer Squadron, gets defensive with Robert Crone, 729th Air Mobility Squadron, at the Company Grade Officer Council's Crud tournament Nov. 24. (Right) John Franklin, 729th AMS, takes aim at the cue ball, trying to put it into the side pocket. Six teams competed in the tournament with the Rockweillers - Dan "Danno" Leonard, 65th Air Base Wing; Joe "Top Dog" Martin, 65th Logistics Readiness Squadron; Rich "Sparty" Fillman, 65th LRS; Dave "Wrap" Reynolds, 65th Mission Support Group and Marc "Big Dog" Hasberger, 65th ABW - emerging the victors. The tournament helped the CGOC raise money for the Combined Federal Campaign.



Ready, aim ...



Anita Sommers, 65th Mission Support Squadron tries for a shot during a game of billiards at the Top of the Rock club Nov. 27. (Photo by Guido Melo)

Sports briefs

Fitness events take place at the Chace Fitness Center unless otherwise noted.

Volleyball

A 3-on-3 volleyball tournament for ages 18 and up is Dec. 17. Teams consist of four players and it's a double-elimination tournament. Register by Dec. 13.

Strong-arm

A bench press competition for ages 18 and up is at 11 a.m. Jan. 15. There are two lifts at each weight and weight classes for men and women. Register by Jan. 7.

HAWC fit tip

To make the most of holiday leftovers, properly handle food when serving and packing it up. Here are a few helpful tips:

Store leftovers in shallow containers.

Refrigerate/freeze leftovers within two hours of cooking the food.

Remove turkey from the bone and store it separately from the stuffing and gravy.

Slice breast meat - legs and wings may be left whole.

Eat turkey within three to four days; stuffing and gravy within one to two days.

Reheat leftovers to 165 degrees Fahrenheit.

For more holiday food safety information, visit www.homefoodsafety.org.

PLANNER

Changes or updates to this page should be sent to news@lajes.af.mil

AAFES

Flight View BX: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Mon.-Wed.; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thu.-Sat.; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sun. and Portuguese holidays

Ocean Front BX: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Mon.-Wed.; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thu.-Sat.; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sun.

Shoppette: 9 a.m.-11 p.m. Mon.-Sat.; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Sun.

Barber shop: 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat.; 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Sat.

Beauty shop: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tue.-Sat.

Manicure shop: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tue.-Sat.

Dry cleaners: 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Mon.; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tue.-Fri.; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sat.

Gas station: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sun., Mon. (gas only); 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tue.-Sat.

Lajes services

Child development center: 7 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

Community activities center: 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Tue.-Sat.; noon-5 p.m. Sun.

Commissary: 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Mon.-Wed., Fri., Sat.; 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Thu.

Chace Fitness Center: 5 a.m.-midnight Mon.-Fri.; 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Sat., Sun.

Library: 4-9 p.m. Mon.; 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Tue.-Thu.; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Fri.; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sat., Sun.

Outdoor recreation: 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Tue.-Sat.; 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Sun.

Skills development center: noon-8 p.m. Tue.-Thu.; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Fri., Sat.

Thrift shop: 12:30-4:30 p.m. Mon. and Wed.; 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Fri. and 1st Saturday of the month.

Vet clinic: 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri.; noon-6 p.m. 1st, 3rd Wed.; 2-8 p.m. 2nd, 4th Wed.

Youth and teen center: 3-6 p.m. Mon.-Sat.; 8 p.m.-midnight Fri., Sat.

Meal time

Burger King: 7 a.m.-11 p.m.

Mon.-Thu.; 7 a.m.-12:30 a.m. Fri.; 8 a.m.-12:30 a.m. Sat.; 8 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Sun.

Dining hall: Breakfast 6-9

a.m., lunch 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m., dinner 4-7 p.m., midnight meal 11 p.m.-1:30 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; Brunch 7 a.m.-1 p.m., supper 4-7 p.m., Sat., Sun, midnight meal 11 p.m.-1 a.m., Sat.

Frank's Franks: 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Tues.-Sat.

Oceanview Island Grill: Lunch 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Mon.-Sun. Specials, with fries or salad and drink: Mon., roasted chicken or meatball sandwich; Tue., 16" 2-topping pizza; Wed., fried shrimp; Thu., 16" 1-topping pizza or taco salad; Fri., lasagna. Pizza specials only come with drinks.

Top of the Rock club: Lunch 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; brunch 8:30 a.m.-noon, Sat.; dinner 5-9 p.m., Tue.-Sat. Lunch buffets and specials: Mon., Southern buffet; Tue., Mexican buffet; Wed., Italian buffet, family dinner buffet; Thu., Oriental buffet, 2-4-1 steak night; Fri., seafood buffet, Prime & Wine dinner; Hoof & Fin dinner special.

Chapel services

Adoration and rosary: 3 p.m. Mon.-Fri.; 5:40 p.m. Sun.

Mass: 5 p.m. Sun.-Fri.

Meditation and prayer: 6:30 a.m. Mon.-Fri.

Monday

Protestant women's spiritual fitness training, 7 p.m.

Wednesday

Men's spiritual fitness training/lunch, noon; Working women's spiritual fitness training/lunch, noon; Catholic Men of the Chapel, 6 p.m. 2nd Wednesday; Traditional choir practice 6 p.m.; Bell choir practice 7 p.m.; Catholic choir rehearsal 7:15 p.m.

Thursday

Gospel choir practice, 7 p.m.; Men's spiritual fitness training, 7 p.m.

Friday

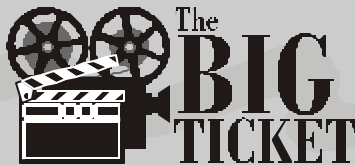
CWOC Mass, 5:30 p.m. 1st Fri.; Teen Movie Night, 7 p.m.

Saturday

Mass, 10 a.m.

Sunday

Traditional Protestant service, 9 a.m.; Confessions, 9:45 a.m.; Traditional Protestant fellowship, 10 a.m.; Mass, 10:30 a.m.; Gospel service, noon; Catholic youth organization, noon; Catholic choir rehearsal, 4 p.m.; Rosary and adoration, 5:40 p.m.; Protestant Youth of the Chapel, 6:15 p.m.



Today: 7 p.m., "Taxi," rated PG-13 for language, sensuality and brief violence. Cast includes Queen Latifah and Jimmy Fallon. Belle, a talented New York City cab driver is asked to partner with police officer Washburn, the worst driver on the NYPD. Her skills behind the wheel and souped-up car help Washburn pursue a gang of female bank robbers. **10 p.m., "Friday Night Lights,"** rated PG-13 for thematic issues, sexual content, language, some teen drinking and rough sports action. Cast includes Billy Bob Thornton and Derek Luke. Based on the book about high school football by H.G. Bissinger, Friday Night Lights chronicles the entire 1988 season of the Permian High Panthers of Odessa, Texas, with football players, coaches, mothers, fathers, boosters, fans and families struggling with ongoing personal conflicts while the team fights for the state championship.

Saturday: 2 p.m., 7 p.m., "Shark Tale," animated, rated PG for mild language and crude humor. The sea underworld is shaken up when the son of the shark mob boss is found dead and a young fish named Oscar is found at the scene. Oscar takes advantage of the situation and makes himself look like he killed the finned mobster. Oscar soon comes to realize that his claim may have serious consequences.

Sunday, 2 p.m., "Shark Tale"

Wednesday, 7 p.m., "Shark Tale"

Thursday, 7 p.m., "Taxi"

AFN Sports on TV

Friday

AFN-Sports:

College football: Cincinnati @ Louisville, 1 p.m.
PGA Tour: Shinhan Korea Golf Championship - final round, 4:30 p.m.
Men's college basketball: ACC-Big Ten Challenge - Purdue @ NC State, 11 p.m.

Saturday

AFN-Atlantic:

Monday Night Football: St. Louis Rams @ Green Bay Packers, 1 a.m.
Men's college basketball: ACC - Kentucky @ North Carolina, 4 p.m.
College football: 105th Army @ Navy, 6:30 p.m.

AFN-Pacific:

Men's college basketball: Big East - Indiana @ Connecticut, 4 p.m.
College football: 105th Army @ Navy 6:30 p.m.
SEC Championship - Tennessee @ Auburn, 10 p.m.

AFN-Sports:

Men's college basketball: Big XII - Nevada @ Kansas, 1 a.m.
Big Ten - Memphis @ Purdue, 7 a.m.
NBA: Detroit Pistons @ San Antonio Spurs, 11 a.m.
College football: ACC - Virginia Tech @ Miami, 5 p.m.

PAC-10 - USC @ UCLA, 8:30 p.m.

California @ Southern Mississippi, 11:45 p.m.

Sunday

AFN-Atlantic:

College football: Big XII Championship - Oklahoma vs. Colorado, midnight
SEC - Illinois @ Arkansas, 11 a.m.
NFL: Atlanta Falcons @ Tampa Bay Buccaneers, 5 p.m.
Green Bay Packers @ Philadelphia Eagles, 8 p.m.
Men's college basketball: BB&L Classic - consolation game, 11 p.m.; championship game, 1 a.m. (Monday)

AFN-Pacific:

NFL: Cincinnati Bengals @ Baltimore Ravens, 5 p.m.
Denver Broncos @ San Diego Chargers, 8 p.m.

AFN-Sports:

2004 Davis Cup Tennis Tournament: Final - Doubles: US vs. Spain, 7 a.m.
College football: Division I-AA Championship quarterfinals - New Hampshire @ Montana, 11 a.m.
NFL: Houston Texans @ NY Jets, 5 p.m.
Kansas City Chiefs @ Oakland Raiders, 8 p.m.
Pittsburgh Steelers @ Jacksonville Jaguars, 12:30 a.m. (Monday)

EVENTS

Advertising deadline is the Friday prior to the paper date. E-mail announcements weekly in normal text with the event, location, date, time, point of contact's full name and phone number/e-mail address to news@lajes.af.mil.

Closures/shifts

Traffic tickets: The security and defense coordination center is under renovation until about April 1, 2005. Until further notice, U.S. people with Air Base No. 4 traffic tickets should see Sra. Sao Santos in Bldg. T-815. For more information, call Sra. Santos at 2-6177 or email her at sao.santos@lajes.af.mil.

Events

Breakfast with Santa: Have French toast and milk or juice with Santa from 9-11 a.m. Dec. 11 at Burger King.

Youth bowl: A bowling tournament for ages 5-18 is from 1-3:30 p.m. Saturday. There will be prizes awarded. Cost is \$3 each, register at the youth center. For more information, call Jolene Wilkinson at 2-1197.

Stress workshop: Air Force OneSource hosts a holiday stress and deployment workshop from noon-1 p.m. Dec. 7 live, online. Go to www.airforceonesource.com and click on "Life Workshops" on the right hand navigation pane. ID is airforce, password is ready.

Magic show: "Moore magic and More Fun" is at 7 p.m. Dec. 17 at the Lajes Youth Center. For more information, call Sheryl Bush at 2-4135.

Flea market: The next flea markets will be from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Dec. 18 and Jan. 15 at the Lajes Youth Center, Bldg. T-240. For more information, call 2-4135.

Classes

Making music: Flute lessons are now offered at the community center from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturdays. Thirty minute private lessons cost \$40 a month. For more information, call 2-4125.

Portuguese sponsorship: Interested in being a Portuguese sponsor for an incoming American family? The Portuguese sponsorship is from 11 a.m.-noon Dec. 21 at the family support center. For more information, call Lauren Jackson at 2-4138.

Sponsors: Sponsorship training is from 10-11 a.m. Dec. 21 at the family support center. Learn the best way to sponsor incoming people to Lajes. For more information, call 2-4138.

TAP class: A transition assistance

Breakin'



Waves break at the military port and over the breakwater at Praia Bay, Nov. 28 from stormy Terceiran winter weather. (Photo by James O'Rear)

class will be Dec. 15-17 at the family support center. The three-day class is designed to get people ready for finding a job in the civilian workforce. Although designed for those who are transitioning out of the military, any spouse or family member can also benefit from the workshop. To register, call 2-4138.

Federal jobs: A class on applying for a federal job is from 9 a.m.-noon Dec. 13 at the family support center. For more information, call 2-4138.

Red Cross class: A 2-day cardiopulmonary resuscitation/automatic defibrillator class is from 6-10 p.m. Dec. 13-14. For more information, call 2-3516.

Education Center

CTC registration: Central Texas College will be holding registration January 3-14 in T-400. Office hours are 8 a.m.-5 p.m.. Classes offered in term 3 will be Children with Special Needs, Court Systems and Practices and Emergency Medical Technician. Students interested in taking the EMT class must register by Jan. 11 because this class will begin one week prior to all other classes. For more information, call 2-6722.

UMUC hours: The University of Maryland office is open 8 a.m.-5 p.m., closing for lunch from 1-2 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

UMUC online: Register now for UMUC term 3 distance education classes. For more information, call Kimberly Holzer at 2-4187.

STAP: Spouses Tuitions Assistance Program applications are now

being accepted for term 3. The deadline for applications is Dec. 30.

ERAU class: Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University is holding MGMT 425, Trends and Current Problems in Air Transportation on-site Dec. 11-17. Registration for January undergraduate and graduate distance learning ends Dec. 15. For more information, call Terra Schellig at 2-3375.

OU classes: Enrollment for Spring 05 online courses runs through Monday. For more information, call Kalina Hill at 2-3171 or emailaplajes@ou.ed.

Master's class: Research in Human Relations, a course for the University of Oklahoma's Master in Human Relations degree is from Jan. 25-30. Sign up by Dec. 27.

Volunteers/jobs

Service trainer: There is an opening for a temporary training specialist (1 year) to administer a new and high-visibility customer service training program. For more information, call 2-5200.

NAF jobs: The 65th Services Squadron has a job open for a Top of the Rock club operations assistant. Apply at the human resources office between 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri., in Bldg. T-112. For more information, call Zeran Maddox at 2-5200.

Tax help: A contract job for a tax assistance program manager is open through Thursday. The contractor provides information, education and tax preparation services to all DOD personnel. The position runs from Jan. 12-June 1, 2005. For more in-

formation, call 2nd Lt. Karin Tjelmeland at 2-3123.

Miscellaneous

Free car: Volvo, the United Services Organisation, the Defense Commissary Agency and C. Lloyd Johnson have teamed up to give away a 2005 Volvo S60 in the USO 2004 Christmas drawing. Also, the commissary will be drawing for a \$50 gift certificate. Sign up through Dec. 22 at the commissary.

Gift certificates: The Defense Commissary now has \$25 gift certificates for sale at the customer service office.

Toll-free calls: To dial toll-free numbers via DSN dial 94-809-4-OFF-DSN (809-463-3376), await the second dial tone, dial the toll-free number.

Chapel events

Protestant Women of the Chapel Fellowship meeting- Advent workshop: 6:30 p.m. today.

Men's spiritual leadership training/breakfast: 8 a.m. Saturday.

Catholic Parish Retreat: 10 a.m. Saturday.

Children and youth movie night: 7 p.m. tonight.

Catholic Advent Workshop: 11 a.m. Saturday.

Classified

Submit ads via e-mail to news@lajes.af.mil. Ads are due by 5 p.m. Friday.

For sale: 2002 Ford Explorer Sport Trac 4WD, 4.0 liter V6. In great condition, 21,600 miles. Asking \$16,000 OBO. Call 295-549-790 after 5 p.m.

For Sale: natural wood colored baby crib, good condition. Originally \$350, asking \$100; pool set w/rack, balls; table cover and brush, less than 6 months old, \$35. Call Geoff or Hayley at 295-549-824.

For sale: 110 volt Dirt Devil vacuum cleaner \$40; 110/220 volt Sony VCR \$50; 110 volt portable heater \$25; cast iron sewing machine base stand \$40; 1" marble top \$30; 3D B2 Stealth bomber picture \$10; Sunbeam gas grill with cover & tank \$30; golden color swivel chair \$30 each or 2 for \$50; Trek Hybrid 970 bike \$225; car carrier for 2 bikes \$10; plastic umbrella stand base \$1; college text books \$1 each; children's books \$1-5 each; Europe travel maps \$1 each; Europe travel books \$2 each; Call Darrin at 295-543-010 or 2-3376.

Free dog to good home! Female, high energy, good with kids, medium sized, housebroken, 20 month old, spayed, all shots, microchipped. Has kennel, assorted toys, food bowls, leash, etc. If interested please call Carrie at 2-3553 or 295-549-553.